AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-56. (canceled)

57.   (new)   A method of transferring authorization to render protected electronic content from a first device to a second device having a device cryptographic key, the method comprising:

receiving a transfer authorization request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

updating a first device history table to indicate that the first device is not authorized to render the protected electronic content and updating a second device history table to indicate that second device is authorized to render the protected electronic content based on the received transfer authorization request; and

communicating a transfer authorization response having an indicator of the second device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and a content cryptographic key for the protected electronic content protected using the device cryptographic key of the second device so that only the second device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second device.

58.   (new)   The method of claim 57 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a symmetric key.

59. (new) The method of claim 58 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a DES key.

60. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a public key having a corresponding private key stored with the second device, and protecting the content cryptographic key using the device cryptographic key of the second device includes protecting the content cryptographic key with the public key such that the second device may use the corresponding private key to gain access to the content cryptographic key.

61. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the public key is an RSA public key and the private key is an RSA private key.

62. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the content cryptographic key is a symmetric key which is used to encrypt the protected electronic content such that only the symmetric key can be used to decrypt the content.

63. (new) The method of claim 57 further comprising receiving payment authorization information associated with the transfer authorization request, and charging a service fee based on the payment authorization information.

64. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein updating the first device history table comprises removing a stored indicator of the protected electronic content from the first device history table.

65. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein updating the first device history table comprises adding indicia that the protected electronic content is no longer authorized for the first device.

66. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the protected electronic content is audio content.

67. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the protected electronic content is video content.

68. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the protected electronic content is electronic written content.

69. (new) The method of claim 57 wherein the indicator of the first device in the transfer authorization request is a unique serial number.

70. (new) The method of claim 57 further comprising verifying that the first device is authorized to render the protected electronic content.

71.   (new) A method of providing authorization to render protected electronic content to a second device in addition to previously providing authorization to render the protected electronic content to a first device, the method comprising:

receiving an authorization to render request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

updating a second device history table to indicate that the second device is authorized to render the protected electronic content based on the received authorization to render request, a first device history table indicating that the first device remains authorized to render the protected electronic content; and

communicating an authorization to render response having an indicator of the second device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and a content cryptographic key for the protected electronic content protected using a device cryptographic key of the second device so that only the second device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second device.

72.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a symmetric key.

73.   (new) The method of claim 72 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a DES key.

74.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a public key having a corresponding private key stored with the second device, and protecting the content cryptographic key using the device cryptographic key of the second device includes protecting the content cryptographic key with the public key such that the second device may use the corresponding private key to gain access to the content cryptographic key.

75.   (new) The method of claim 74 wherein the public key is an RSA public key and the private key is an RSA private key.

76.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the content cryptographic key is a symmetric key which is used to encrypt the protected electronic content such that only the symmetric key can be used to decrypt the content.

77.   (new) The method of claim 71 further comprising receiving payment authorization information associated with the authorization to render request, and charging a service fee based on the payment authorization information.

78.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the protected electronic content is audio content.

79.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the protected electronic content is video content.

80.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the protected electronic content is electronic written content.

81.   (new) The method of claim 71 wherein the indicator of the first device in the authorization to render request is a unique serial number.

82.   (new) The method of claim 71 further comprising verifying that the first device is authorized to render the protected electronic content.

83.   (new) A system of transferring authorization to render protected electronic content from a first device to a second device having a device cryptographic key, the system comprising:

an input for receiving a transfer authorization request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

a processor for updating a first device history table to indicate that the first device is not authorized to render the protected electronic content and updating a second device history table to indicate that second device is authorized to render the protected electronic content based on the received transfer authorization request; and

an output for communicating a transfer authorization response having an indicator of the second device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and a content cryptographic key for the protected electronic content protected using the device cryptographic key of the second device so that only the second device may gain access to

the content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second

device.

84. (new) The system of claim 83 wherein the device cryptographic key of

the second device is a symmetric key.

85. (new) The system of claim 83 wherein the device cryptographic key of

the second device is a public key having a corresponding private key stored with the

second device, and protecting the content cryptographic key using the device

cryptographic key of the second device includes protecting the content cryptographic key

with the public key such that the second device may use the corresponding private key to

gain access to the content cryptographic key.

86. (new) The system of claim 83 wherein the content cryptographic key is a

symmetric key which is used to encrypt the protected electronic content such that only

the symmetric key can be used to decrypt the content.

87. (new) The system of claim 83 wherein the input receives payment

authorization information associated with the authorization request, and the processor

charges a service fee based on the payment authorization information.

88. (new) The system of claim 83 wherein the indicator of the first device in

the transfer authorization request is a unique serial number.

89.   (new)   The system of claim 83 wherein the processor verifies that the first device is authorized to render the protected electronic content.

90.   (new)   A system of providing authorization to render protected electronic content to a second device in addition to previously providing authorization to render the protected electronic content to a first device, the system comprising:

an input for receiving an authorization to render request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

a processor for updating a second device history table to indicate that second device is authorized to render the protected electronic content based on the received authorization to render request, a first device history table indicating that the first device remains authorized to render the protected electronic content; and

an output for communicating an authorization to render response having an indicator of the second device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and a content cryptographic key for the protected electronic content protected using a device cryptographic key of the second device so that only the second device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second device.

91.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a symmetric key.

92.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the device cryptographic key of the second device is a public key having a corresponding private key stored with the second device, and protecting the content cryptographic key using the device cryptographic key of the second device includes protecting the content cryptographic key with the public key such that the second device may use the corresponding private key to gain access to the content cryptographic key.

93.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the content cryptographic key is a symmetric key which is used to encrypt the protected electronic content such that only the symmetric key can be used to decrypt the content.

94.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the input receives payment authorization information associated with the authorization to render request, and the processor charges a service fee based on the payment authorization information.

95.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the indicator of the first device in the transfer authorization request is a unique serial number.

96.   (new)   The system of claim 90 wherein the processor verifies that the first device is authorized to render the protected electronic content.

97.   (new)   A method of rendering protected electronic content in a second device having a device cryptographic key, the method comprising:

receiving, in a first device, authorization to render the protected electronic content;

communicating a transfer authorization request to transfer authorization to render the protected electronic content from the first device to the second device, the transfer authorization request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

receiving a transfer authorization response having an indicator of the second device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and a content cryptographic key for the protected electronic content protected using the device cryptographic key of the second device so that only the second device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second device; and

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key through decryption using the device cryptographic key of the second device and obtaining access to the protected electronic content through decryption using the content cryptographic key.

98.   (new) A method of rendering electronic content protected under a content cryptographic key by both a first device having a first device cryptographic key and a second device having second device cryptographic key, the method comprising:

receiving, in the first device, authorization to render the protected electronic content;

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key in the first device through decryption using the first device cryptographic key and obtaining access to the protected content through decryption using the content cryptographic key;

communicating an authorization to render request to obtain additional

authorization to render the protected electronic content using the second device, the

authorization to render request having an indicator of the first device, an indicator of the

second device, and an indicator of the protected electronic content;

receiving an authorization to render response having an indicator of the second

device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and the content cryptographic key

for the protected electronic content protected using the second device cryptographic key

so that only the second device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of

the second device cryptographic key; and

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key in the second device through

decryption using the second device cryptographic key and obtaining access to the

protected electronic content through decryption using the content cryptographic key.

99.   (new) For use with first and second interface devices for insertion into at

least one audio tape player having a plurality of user controls and for responding to user

actuation of one of said controls to place the audio tape player in a state to initiate a

selected operation when a conventional audio cassette has been inserted into said audio

tape player, a method for transferring authorization to play protected audio content with

the audio tape player from the first interface device to the second interface device, the

method comprising:

receiving, in the first interface device, authorization to play the protected audio

content;

communicating a transfer authorization request to transfer authorization to play

the protected audio content from the first interface device to the second interface device,

the transfer authorization request having an indicator of the first interface device, an

indicator of the second interface device, and an indicator of the protected audio content;

receiving a transfer authorization response having an indicator of the second

interface device, an indicator of the protected audio content, and a content cryptographic

key for the protected audio content protected using a device cryptographic key of the

second interface device so that only the second interface device may gain access to the

content cryptographic key by use of the device cryptographic key of the second interface

device; and

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key through decryption using the

device cryptographic key of the second interface device and obtaining access to the

protected audio content through decryption using the content cryptographic key so that

the audio content may be played by the audio tape player.

100.   (new) For use with first and second interface devices for insertion into at

least one audio tape player having a plurality of user controls and for responding to user

actuation of one of said controls to place the audio tape player in a state to initiate a

selected operation when a conventional audio cassette has been inserted into said player,

a method of providing authorization to play protected audio content to the second

interface device in addition to previously providing authorization to play the protected

audio content to the first interface device, the method comprising:

receiving authorization, in the first interface device, to play the protected audio content;

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key in the first interface device through decryption using a first device cryptographic key of the first interface device and obtaining access to the protected audio content through decryption using the content cryptographic key;

communicating an authorization to play request to obtain additional authorization to play the protected audio content using a second interface device, the authorization to play request having an indicator of the first interface device, an indicator of the second interface device, and an indicator of the protected audio content;

receiving an authorization to play response having an indicator of the second interface device, an indicator of the protected electronic content, and the content cryptographic key for the protected audio content protected using a second device cryptographic key so that only the second interface device may gain access to the content cryptographic key by use of the second device cryptographic key; and

obtaining access to the content cryptographic key in the second interface device through decryption using the second device cryptographic key and obtaining access to the protected content through decryption using the content cryptographic key.

101.   (new)   The method as in claim 57 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.

102.   (new)   The method as in claim 71 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.

103.   (new)   The system as in claim 83 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.

104.   (new)   The system as in claim 90 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.

105.   (new)   The method as in claim 97 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.

106.   (new)   The method as in claim 98 wherein the first and second devices are devices which may be inserted into a standard tape player having a plurality of conventional user controls.